

§ 1623.3 Grounds for suspension.

Financial assistance provided to a recipient may be suspended when:

(a) There has been substantial failure by a recipient to comply with a provision of law, or a rule, regulation, or guideline issued by the Corporation, or a term or condition of the recipient's current grant from or contract with the Corporation; or

(b) There has been substantial failure by a recipient to provide high quality, economical, and effective legal assistance, as measured by generally accepted professional standards, the provisions of the Act, or a rule, regulation, or guideline issued by the Corporation.

(c) In the absence of unusual circumstances, suspension shall not take place unless the Corporation has given the recipient notice of its failure and an opportunity to take effective corrective action.

§ 1623.4 Suspension.

(a) When there is reason to believe that financial assistance to a recipient should be suspended, the Corporation shall serve a written preliminary determination on the recipient stating the grounds and effective date for the proposed suspension, and identifying, with reasonable specificity, any facts or documents relied upon as justification for the suspension. The preliminary determination shall also specify any corrective action that the recipient must take to avoid or end the suspension.

(b) The preliminary determination shall also advise the recipient that it may, within 5 days of receipt of the preliminary determination, request an informal meeting with the Corporation at which it may attempt to show that the proposed suspension should not become effective. The Corporation shall designate the place for such a meeting and shall set the time at least 5 days after the recipient's request is received. The preliminary determination shall also advise the recipient that, within 10 days of its receipt of the preliminary determination and without regard to whether it requested an informal meeting, it may submit written materials in opposition to the proposed suspension.

(c) The Corporation shall consider any written materials submitted by

the recipient in opposition to the proposed suspension and any oral presentation or written materials submitted by the recipient at the informal meeting, if one is requested. If after considering these materials the Corporation concludes that the recipient has failed to show that the suspension should not become effective, it may suspend financial assistance to the recipient in whole or in part and under such terms and conditions as it deems proper.

(d) Written notice of the suspension shall be promptly transmitted to the recipient, and the suspension shall become effective when the notice is received by the recipient or on such later date as is specified in the notice.

(e) The Corporation employee ordering suspension may at any time rescind or modify the terms of the suspension and, on written notice to the recipient, reinstate the suspension without further proceedings under this part. In no event shall the total time of suspension exceed 30 days, unless the Corporation and the recipient agree to a continuation of the suspension for an additional period of time and without further proceedings under this part.

§ 1623.5 Time extension and waiver.

(a) Any period of time provided in this part, except the total time for suspension, may, upon good cause shown and determined, be extended by the person issuing the preliminary determination under § 1623.4 or by the President.

(b) Requests for extensions of time shall be considered in light of the overall objective that the procedures prescribed by this part ordinarily shall be concluded within 30 days of the preliminary determination.

(c) Any other provision of this part may be waived or modified by agreement of the recipient and the Corporation, or by the President upon good cause shown and determined.

§ 1623.6 Interim funding.

Failure by the Corporation to meet a time requirement of this part shall not entitle a recipient to continued funding. Pending the completion of suspension proceedings under this part, the Corporation shall provide the recipient with interim funding necessary to

maintain its current level and legal assistance activities under the Act.

PART 1624—PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF HANDICAP

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AUTHORITY: 49 U.S.C. 794; 42 U.S.C. 2996f(a) (1) and (3).

SOURCE: 44 FR 55178, Sept. 25, 1979, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1624.1 Purpose.

The purpose of this part is to assist and provide guidance to legal services programs supported in whole or in part by Legal Services Corporation funds in removing any impediments that may exist to the provision of legal assistance to handicapped persons eligible for such assistance in accordance with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, 29 U.S.C. section 794 and with sections 1007(a) (1) and (3) of the Legal Services Corporation Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. sections 2996f(a) (1) and (3), with respect to the provision of services to and employment of handicapped persons.

§ 1624.2 Application.

This part applies to each legal services program receiving financial assistance from the Legal Services Corporation.

§ 1624.3 Definitions.

As used in this part, the term:

(a) *Legal services program* means any recipient, as defined by § 1600.1 of these regulations, or any other public or private agency, institution, organization, or other entity, or any person to which or to whom financial assistance is extended by the Legal Services Corporation directly or through another agency, institution, organization, entity or person, including any successor, assignee, or transferee of a legal services

program, but does not include the ultimate beneficiary of legal assistance;

(b) *Facility* means all or any portion of buildings, structures, equipment, roads, walks, parking lots, or other real or personal property or interest in such property;

(c)(1) *Handicapped person* means any person who: (i) Has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of such an impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having such an impairment;

(2) As used in paragraph (a)(1) of this section the phrase:

(i) *Physical or mental impairment* means: (A) Any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems: Neurological; musculoskeletal; special sense organs; digestive; genitourinary; hemic and lymphatic; skin; and endocrine; or (B) any mental or psychological disorder, such as mental retardation, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disabilities; The phrase includes, but is not limited to, such diseases and conditions as orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, mental retardation, emotional illness, and drug addiction and alcoholism;

(ii) *Major life activities* means functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working;

(iii) *Has a record of such impairment* means has a history of, or has been misclassified as having, a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;

(iv) *Is regarded as having an impairment* means: (A) Has a physical or mental impairment that does not substantially limit major life activities but is treated by a legal services program as constituting such a limitation; (B) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits major life activities only as a result of the attitudes of others toward such impairments; or (C) has none of the impairments defined in